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CUSTOMER NO.: 24498
Serial No.: 10/791,343
Office Action dated: 09/20/06
Response dated: 03/20/07

PATENT
PA030009

Remarks/Arguments

Item 2:

Applicant amends the title to be more indicative of the invention disclosed in the claims.

Item 3:

In the office action it is asserted that Applicant has not filed a certified copy of the DE 03290579.6 application as required by 35 USC 119(b). (Applicant believes that the Examiner intended to refer to EPO Appln. No. 03290579.6, which is the true priority document.)

Applicant's records, however, indicate that Applicant mailed a certified copy of the foreign priority document EPO Appln. No. 03290579.6 on March 2, 2004. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the Applicant's prior submissions be inspected to confirm compliance. (Please note that Applicant's foreign priority document published as EP 1458186 A1.)

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112

Item 5:

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Particularly, it is asserted in the Office Action that the expression "wherein signals from the microprocessor for controlling the low power mode" in claim 1 is not clearly understood. Further, it is asserted that the "specification discloses only that wherein signals from the microprocessor for controlling the switched mode power supply to a low power mode."

Applicant proposes amending claim 1 to overcome the rejection to claim 1.

In response to the assertions in this Item 5, Applicant points out that the "Summary of the Invention", on page 3, lines 2 – 5 of the specification, describes that via an output pin of the microprocessor a low power mode, in particular a low power burst mode, is provided by a switched mode power supply. The description describes further in more detail the function of the control signal Uc on page 6, lines 8 – 22, wherein it is explained how by means of the

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control signal U_c , the switched mode power supply is switched between normal mode and standby mode, and how the low power standby mode burst mode is controlled by using a periodic square wave.

In the amended claim 1, the expression "wherein signals from the microprocessor for controlling the low power mode," has been amended in that an output of the microprocessor provides a control signal for controlling the low power mode and the demagnetization circuit, as further defined in the amended claim 1. Applicant asserts that amended claim 1 is clear.

Item 7-8:

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC 112.

Particularly, it is asserted in the Office Action that "the same output" in line 7 of claim 1 has insufficient antecedent basis. Further, because claims 2-8 depend from claim 1, they too have this deficiency.

Claim 1 has been amended remove the antecedent basis deficiency. As such, Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1-8.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

Item 10:

Claims 1-5, 7, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Den Hollander (U.S. Pat. No. 5,175,441).

Claims 1-5 and 7

Applicant amends claim 1 to now recite an arrangement comprising a microprocessor, a demagnetization circuit, a logical AND combination, and a switched mode power supply having a normal mode and a low power mode with the microprocessor being coupled a same output to the demagnetization circuit and to the switched mode power supply for controlling the low power mode and the demagnetization circuit by means of a control signal, wherein the control signal and an on-indicative signal only present in the normal mode are connected each to an input of the logical AND combination for coupling the control signal to the demagnetization circuit in dependency of

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the power on-indicative signal, and the control signal being in the low power mode a square wave signal for providing a burst mode.

The reference Den Hollander, however, describes an arrangement with a microprocessor, which is powered by a standby power supply, and with a main power supply 19 and a degauss circuit 24, which is coupled in parallel with the power supply 19. For switching between a low power mode and normal operation mode, the main power supply 19 can be switched on and off by the microprocessor by means of a triac T1, which switches on and off the main voltage to the power supply 19. Because of the parallel arrangement of the degauss circuit 24 with regard to the power supply 19, when the power supply 19 is switched on and off, the degauss circuit is switched on and off. The triac is controlled by a signal from an output ON/OFF of the microprocessor.

But the circuit arrangement of Den Hollander does not show a logical AND combination, to which inputs a control signal and an on indicative signal, which is only present in the normal mode, with the inputs being connected for coupling the control signal to the demagnetization circuit in dependency of the power-on indicative signal. Also, the control signal of the circuit arrangement of Den Hollander does not use a control signal being in the low power mode a square wave signal for providing a burst mode, because the ON/OFF signal switches only on and off an AC current to a power supply 19 and a degauss circuit 24 for switching between normal mode and low power mode. The microprocessor in particular does not provide a control signal for providing a burst mode, because the circuit arrangement of Den Hollander uses a separate standby power supply for the low power mode. The circuit arrangement as described by Den Hollander is therefore completely different from the circuit arrangement as described in the amended claim 1.

As such, because the circuit arrangement as described by Den Hollander is completely different from the circuit arrangement as described in the amended claim 1, Den Hollander does not anticipate amended claim 1 and dependent claims 2-5 and 7, which also have the same limitations as the base claim 1. In light of the above, reconsideration of the rejection to claims 1-5 and 9 is requested.

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Claims 9 and 10

Applicant amends claim 9 to now recite an arrangement comprising a microprocessor, a demagnetization circuit, a logical AND combination, and a switched mode power supply having a normal mode and a low power mode, the microprocessor being coupled via a same output to the demagnetization circuit and to the switched mode power supply for controlling the low power mode and the demagnetization circuit by means of a control signal, wherein the control signal and an on-indicative signal only present in the normal mode are connected each to an input of the logical AND combination for coupling the control signal to the demagnetization circuit in dependency of the power on-indicative signal.

The reference Den Hollander, however, does not describe an arrangement which shows a logical AND combination, to which inputs a control signal and an on indicative signal, which is only present in the normal mode, are connected, for coupling the control signal to the demagnetization circuit in dependency of the power-on indicative signal. The circuit arrangement as described by Den Hollander is therefore completely different from the circuit arrangement as described in the amended claim 9.

As such, because the circuit arrangement as described by Den Hollander is completely different from the circuit arrangement as described in the amended claim 9, Den Hollander does not anticipate amended claim 9 and dependent claim 10, which also has, inter alia, the same limitations as the base claim 9. In light of the above, reconsideration of the rejection to claims 9 and 10 is requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

Item 12:

Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in light of Den Hollander in view of "Applicant Admitted Prior Art." It is asserted in the Office Action that although Den "Holland does not explicitly disclose the control signal from microprocessor is in the low power mode a square wave signal," ... "Official Notice is taken that a square wave signal is very well know in the art." It is further pointed out in the Office Action that the Technical Background in the Application discloses "the control signal from microprocessor is

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in the low power mode a square wave signal." As such, it is concluded in the Office Action that is obvious to combine the mentioned subject matter in the Technical Background with the subject matter in Den Hollander.

Applicant first points out that claims 6 and 8 and the base claim 1 from which 6 and 8 depend are all amended.

Claim 6

In the Technical Background in Applicant's application, Applicant does describes a circuit arrangement with a switched mode power supply in which a low power burst mode is controlled by a microprocessor, and wherein the microprocessor applies a square wave signal to a control loop of the power supply for controlling the burst mode. But no information is given in this reference, that also a degauss circuit can be controlled by the microprocessor, at the same time with the same control signal, as used for controlling the burst mode in low power standby. Because the circuit arrangement of Den Hollander uses already a separate standby power supply and a burst mode cannot be used for the normal operation of a power supply, a person skilled in the art does not have any motivation, to combine the subject matter in the Technical Background with the circuit arrangement as described by Den Hollander.

A person skilled in the art has further no motivation to use a logical AND combination in a manner as described in the amended claim 1 (from which claim 6 depends), for coupling the control signal to the demagnetization circuit in dependency of a power-on indicative signal, because in the circuit arrangement of Den Hollander, the demagnetization circuit is decoupled from the main voltage in the low power standby mode by means of the triac, which switches on and off the power supply 19 and the degauss circuit 24 at the same time.

In light of the above, amended claim 6 is inventive over the cited references and reconsideration is now requested.

Claim 8

Applicant points that the circuit arrangement of Den Hollander and the content of the Technical Background of the Application do not show a logical AND combination, to which

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inputs a control signal and an on indicative signal, which is only present in the normal mode, are connected, as described in the amended claim 8, because the degauss circuit 24 is coupled in parallel with the power supply 19. A person skilled in the art has therefore no motivation, to use a logical AND combination in a manner as described in amended claim 8.

In light of the above, amended claim 8 is inventive over the cited references and reconsideration is now requested.

Conclusion:

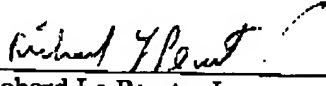
In view of the assertions presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Please charge Deposit Order Account No. 07-0832 for a 3-month extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 20, 2007